

## Por qué GEAR UP es Importante

Ustedes como Padres juegan un papel muy importante en el trayecto de preparacion de su hijo(a), y en el exito que tengan si deciden ir a un colegio comunitario o a la universidad.

Terminar la preparatoria y ir al colegio se ha vuelto cada vez más importante para abrir posibilidades de avance económico en los Estados Unidos. Sabemos que el hecho de obtener una educacion universitaria requiere de mucho tiempo, esfuerzo y un planeamiento cuidadoso por parte de los padres y los estudiantes, pero tambien estamos viendo que el esfuerzo de los estudiantes para terminar y graduarse de la preparatoria es cada vez mas dificil.

Precisamente por eso es tan importante la participación en el programa GEAR UP. Nosotros nos unimos en ese trayecto con ustedes de tiempo,, esfuerzo y planeamiento para ayudar a su hijo(a) graduarse de la preparatoria y ir al colegio.

Favor de llamarle al consejero de GEAR UP en la escuela de su hijo(a) si tiene alguna pregunta acerca de GEAR UP, o si no a firmado el acuerdo de GEAR UP. Recuerde, necesita un acuerdo firmado por usted y por su hijo(a) para poder ser elegible para la beca y los beneficios del programa GEAR UP, aunque cumpla con todos los otros requisitos.

## Why GEAR UP is Important

You as parents play a very important role in your child's journey of preparation and success in high school, as well as in college.

Graduating from high school and going on to college has become increasingly more important to open the possibilities of economic advancement in the United States. We are aware of the fact that obtaining a post-secondary education requires a lot of time, effort and careful planning on the part of the parents and the students, but we are also seeing the struggle of the students to get through high school. Graduating is increasingly getting more difficult.

That is why participation in GEAR UP is so important. We unite in that journey with you, of time, effort and planning to help your child graduate from high school and go on to college.

Please contact the GEAR UP counselor at your child's high school if you have any question about GEAR UP, or if you have not signed the GEAR UP agreement. Remember, that you need a signed agreement or your child will not be eligible to receive the scholarship and benefits of the GEAR UP program, even if they have met all the other eligibility requirements.

## GEAR UP PARTNERS

### College Partners

University and Community College

System of Nevada

Board of Regents

### Agency Partners

Nevada State Treasurer

State Board of Education

Nevada Department of Education

### Business Partners

Wells Fargo Bank

USA Funds

SBC

## HAVE YOU MOVED?

Be sure to let GEAR UP know if you ever change your address that way we can continue to contact you for these and other exciting college-prep activities. Please send your address change to your GEAR UP school or to:  
[gearup@nsn.k12.nv.us](mailto:gearup@nsn.k12.nv.us)

## One Step Further

Do more than exist: live  
Do more than touch: feel  
Do more than look: observe  
Do more than read: absorb  
Do more than hear: listen  
Do more than listen: understand  
Do more than think: reflect  
Do more than talk: say something.

Author Unknown



# Gear Up Grapevine

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

Fall 2004  
Volume 1, Number 7

## GEAR UP HIGH SCHOOLS

### Clark County

Chaparral

Canyon Springs

Clark/Mojave

Desert Pines

Palo Verde/Del Sol

Rancho/Valley

Western/Cheyenne

Cimarron Memorial

Eldorado/Durango

Las Vegas Academy

Las Vegas High School

Vo-Tech

A-Tech

### Elko County

Owyhee

### Lyon County

Yerington

### Humboldt County

McDermitt

### Mineral County

Mineral County

### Nye County

Gabbs

Beatty

Tonopah

### Washoe County

Hug

## Gear Up Contacts

Nevada Gear Up State Office

Nevada Department of Education

700 East Fifth Street

Carson City, Nevada 89701

775-687-9244

[gearup@nsn.k12.nv.us](mailto:gearup@nsn.k12.nv.us)

Charlotte Curtis

Gear Up Coordinator

email: [ccurtis@doe.nv.gov](mailto:ccurtis@doe.nv.gov)

Marie Pishnak G.P.A.

Grants and Program Analyst

email: [mpishnak@doe.nv.gov](mailto:mpishnak@doe.nv.gov)

Jennifer Thomas AA111

email: [jthomas@doe.nv.gov](mailto:jthomas@doe.nv.gov)

## Getting Ready for High School Proficiency Exams!

Nevada proficiency exams will be here before you know it. The High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) will be given April 4 through April 8, 2005, and The Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED) will be given between January 15 and February 15, 2005. It is important for students to prepare for these tests. The Nevada Department of Education has made studying for proficiency exams easier by including a review guide on their website. Directions to reach this review guide are as follows:



Web site: [www.nde.state.nv.us](http://www.nde.state.nv.us)

Navigate to "Quick find menus" (go to first box below this heading).

Arrow down to "High School Proficiency Exam" -click on this heading, which will take you to the "High School Proficiency Exam" page.

Arrow down to the "High School Proficiency Exam Review Guide for 2003-2004 School Year (PDF)".

Click on (PDF).

This will open the "Review guide" which can be used to study for the Nevada Proficiency exams.

## "Study for Success"

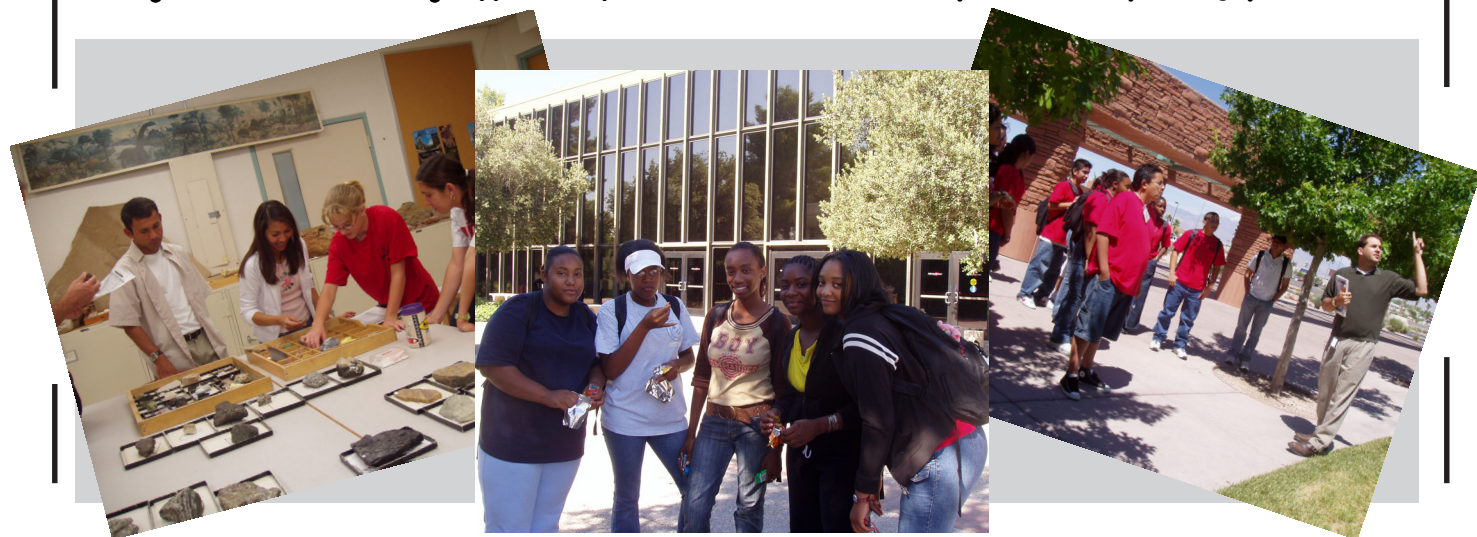
- 1) Move forward each day. It's important to make daily progress. You will be amazed at how a small amount of effort each day, adds up. "A year from now you may wish you had started today" Karen Lams
- 2) Keep an eye on the end result, good grades, scholarships, etc.; however learn to enjoy the process that gets you there. "To do a common thing uncommonly well brings success" Henry John Heinz
- 3) Study and prepare even if you don't feel like it. It's not about how you feel; it's what you do regardless of how you feel. "Do something you hate everyday just for the practice" John C. Maxwell
- 4) Forego daily distractions they will keep you from doing things which are more important. "Time is usually wasted in the same way each day" Paul Meyer
- 5) Don't limit yourself. You are capable of far more than you think! "It is your duty to find yourself" John C. Maxwell
- 6) First things first, plan and organize your time, and then follow your plan. Good time management is the key to your success. "You can become the star of the hour if you make the minutes count" Anonymous
- 7) Don't be afraid to make a mistake. "Success is going from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm" Abraham Lincoln



## "UNLV GEAR UP Summer College Camp"

The UNLV GEAR UP Summer College Camp was held in June. The camp offered a variety of classes which encouraged students to explore their talents and interests. Classes were held covering topics such as fashion, geology, and preparing for college. GEAR UP students toured a variety of facilities including The Metro Police Headquarter, city and county government offices, The U.S. District Court, an art gallery and a climbing gym wall.

Reports back to GEAR UP following the camp from students who attended were very positive. Students reported making new friends, both student and adult. They learned new skills and became familiar with career options they had not previously considered. Students also confirmed feeling more knowledgeable and prepared for high school and the college application process, and last but certainly not least they did enjoy the food!



### GEAR UP FOR COLLEGE READINESS

The UNLV GEAR UP partnership is looking forward to an exciting third year. For the last two years, GEAR UP has provided services to students at six middle schools in Clark County. They include: Jim Bridger, James Cashman, Roy Martin, William Orr, J.D. Smith, and Charles I. West. During this academic school year the program has followed its' first cohort of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to Canyon Springs, Clark, Desert Pines, Mojave, Rancho, Valley and Western High Schools. The services provided by GEAR UP include higher education awareness, tutoring and academic enhancement, college preparation workshops, summer and after-school academic enrichment.

"GEAR UP provides students with enough tools to enable them to take advantage of the opportunity to attend and succeed in college," according to Deanna R. Davis, Assistant Director of College Readiness for The Center. "We have seen how successful our outreach has been to middle schools and look forward to the challenge of offering services that will benefit our high school participants."

Through the continued efforts to raise student achievement, the Clark County School District has implemented the AVID program in nine local high schools. The Center is sponsoring the tutorial component of the AVID program at six of the GEAR UP high school sites. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a program that has been implemented in local high schools in the Clark County School District. The purpose of the AVID program is to improve student's GPA, assist students in increasing their test scores, and inspire students to pursue higher education. AVID is designed to increase school-wide learning and performance especially amongst "average" high school students. These "average" students are able to keep up with their class work through support from mentors, tutorial assistance by university students, and college and career workshops.

Currently, the GEAR UP partnership has seen positive results in providing caring role models, tutorial assistance, summer enrichment and academic enhancement to over 8,000 Clark County students. The support offered through the GEAR UP program helps students believe that they can achieve and be college ready!

## "UNR GEAR UP Summer College Camp"

Northern Nevada GEAR UP students visited the UNR campus in June for the GEAR UP Summer College Camp. Those students who attended the camp put forth a lot of effort and were very busy throughout the five day camp.

Student underwent proficiency test preparation and workshops, teambuilding, and career exploration. The career exploration activities included visits to area businesses and organizations such as The Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA), Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center, Reno ReTRAC, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, and the Nature Conservancy at McCarran Ranch on the Truckee River. Tours were also given at the federal and district courthouses.

GEAR UP students were introduced to career opportunities throughout the university, including KUNR-FM, The College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. In addition Eric Wang of the university's Mechanical Engineering Department showcased the department's resources on robotics. Wells Fargo Bank also held sessions on teaching students how to plan financially for college.

Charlotte Curtis GEAR UP's coordinator for the Nevada Department of Education was quoted as saying, "I notice that the students feel more confident every time they visit, and ask more questions about college majors and college life."



[www.collegelife.about.com](http://www.collegelife.about.com)

This site provides information about various aspects of college life from the viewpoint of current college students. Topics include academics, athletics, living options, what to bring, Greek Systems, social life, and more.

[usafunds.org](http://usafunds.org)

This site provides helpful information for students and parents about planning and paying for college.

[www.collegeispossible.org](http://www.collegeispossible.org)

This is a resource guide for parents, students, and education professionals. It provides information about preparing for college, choosing the right college, and paying for college.

[www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org)

Provides helpful information about college and career planning, and has sections for middle to high school students and parents.

